

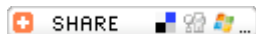
Govt urged to probe alleged murder of six youths

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FOLLOWING the murder of six Ilaje youths in Ondo State recently allegedly by security officials, a Lagos based lawyer and human rights activist, Egun Olu-Adegboruwa has called on the Attorney-General of the Federation, (AGF), Mohammed Adoke, to institute a judicial commission of inquiry to unravel the circumstances leading to their death and to bring the perpetrators to justice.

The incident, which occurred on Sunday, July 29, 2012 at Igbokoda headquarters of Ilaje Local Council in Ondo State, happened when a parliamentarian, Raphael Nomiye, representing Ilaje-Ese-Odo Federal Constituency in the House of Representatives was distributing welfare packages to his supporters. During the processes, the atmosphere became rowdy and the security details of the politician and naval officers present allegedly shot and killed six youths and wounded 15 others severely.

Adegboruwa said: "It has become a matter of great concern that politicians who cannot initiate appropriate bills and policies to address the endemic poverty of their people will turn around to be distributing largesse and doling out tokens of welfare packages as a way of boosting their support base among the people that they have indirectly impoverished."

He tasked the AGF to ensure that Nomiye was brought to book.

He went on: "I condemn the brutal killing of defenceless and armless youths as barbaric, inhuman and ungodly. We must hold all politicians accountable for the constant mindless massacre of our people. In this case, Hon. Raphael Nomiye should be brought to book and held vicariously liable for the death of the youths and the fatal injuries sustained by 15 others.

"He must pay and be held responsible for the medical treatment of those in the hospital and to compensate the families of the deceased, in addition to any criminal prosecution that he and the security details drafted to cover his occasion may be found liable for," he stated.

The lawyer also advised the Inspector General of Police, Mohammed Abubakar and the head of other security agencies to check the excesses of their men who are usually sent to guard politicians.

"I urge the Inspector-General of Police and heads of other security agencies to properly monitor the deployment of security men by politicians for the sake of intimidating their opponents and to hack down their own people. Security men and women sustained through the tax and revenue of the people should not be the very source of their untimely death," he declared.

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